

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LENDING 02727 302120Z

ACTION INR-10

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FM AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4707

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L L E N I N G R A D 0 2 7 2 7

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EWRG, UR

SUBJECT: ESTONIA OIL SHALE

REFS: (A) STATE 240347, (B) MOSCOW 22926, (C) LENINGRAD

2266

1. CONGEN HAS ASKED LOCAL AUTHORITIES FOR OPPORTUNITY FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION OF USE OF NATURAL GAS AND SHALE IN LENINGRAD AREA, BUT NOT HOPEFUL OF OBTAINING EARLY RESPONSE.

2. ON CHANCE THAT IT MIGHT NOT YET BE AVAILABLE TO WASHINGTON ANALYSTS, WE ARE FORWARDING INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF RELEVANT PARTS OF FRONT-PAGE ARTICLE IN SOVIET-SKAYA ESTONIA, SEPTEMBER 3, CONCERNING PLANS TO INTRODUCE NATURAL GAS INTO SEVERAL ESTONIAN CITIES IN THE COMING MONTHS. ARTICLE DOES NOT SHED LIGHT ON SHIPMENT OF GAS FROM SHALE TO LENINGRAD FROM ESTONIA, BUT DOES STRONGLY SUGGEST THAT TALLINN GORISPOLKOM SECRETARY MIGHT HAVE JUMPED THE GUN WHEN HE TOLD CONSUL GENERAL IN AUGUST THAT TALLINN WAS ALREADY RECEIVING NATURAL GAS FROM LENINGRAD (REF C).

3. ARTICLE IS ENTITLED: "ARTERIAL LINES (MAGISTRALY) OF BLUE FUEL," BY A. PESUR, HEAD ENGINEER, MAIN ADMINISTRATION  
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TION FOR GASIFICATION, COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, ESSR. AFTER DESCRIBING CURRENT CONSTRUCTION OF PIPELINE FROM SIBERIA TO WESTERN BORDERS OF THE USSR, ARTICLE CONTINUES: QUOTE. GAS LINES ARE ALSO BEING BUILT IN OUR REPUBLIC. FOR EXAMPLE, TARTU - RAKVERE (INSTALLATION IS TO BE COMPLETED THIS YEAR). AS IS KNOWN, THE FIRST PHASE (OTREZOK) OF THIS LINE, IZBORSK - TARTU WAS CONSTRUCTED IN 1976. WITH

THE COMPLETION OF CONSTRUCTION, NATURAL GAS WILL BEGIN TO COME THROUGH TO THE COMPOUND FERTILIZER PLANT AT KOKHTLA-YARVE, (TO) CONSUMERS IN TALLINN, RAKVERE AND KIVIYLI.

4. QUOTE. IN THE CURRENT YEAR THE WORKERS OF THE CONSTRUCTION-REPAIR DIVISION OF THE TARTU CITY OFFICE OF GAS ECONOMY ARE LAYING A GAS PIPELINE TO PYLVA. WORK ON THE CONVERSION TO GAS ("GAZIFIKATSIYA") OF THE SOVKHOZ "KUUSTE" WILL BEGIN, AND THE CORRESPONDING PROJECT PAPER WORK HAS ALREADY BEGUN FOR A WHOLE SERIES OF KOLKHOZES AND SOVKHOZES. THE CONVERSION TO GAS OF THE HOUSING SUPPLY IS ALSO SUCCESSFULLY UNDERWAY. 505 APARTMENTS OVER AND ABOVE THE PLAN HAVE BEEN CONVERTED AND IN ALL, THROUGHOUT THE REPUBLIC, THIS FORM OF FUEL IS BEING USED BY THE OCCUPANTS OF 364,000 APARTMENTS.

5. QUOTE. ...THE MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEM WHICH WE ARE RESOLVING NOW IS THE PREPARATION OF THE GAS SYSTEM OF TALLINN, RAKVERE AND KIVIYLI FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF NATURAL GAS. BY THE END OF THE YEAR ALL PREPARATORY WORK MUST BE COMPLETED. END QUOTE. BUCHANAN

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## Message Attributes

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